

## Message Text

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43

ACTION FBO-01

INFO OCT-01 EUR-06 ADP-00 SY-10 DODE-00 SSO-00 /018 W

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O 251348 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8311

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 4672

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ABLD, AFSP, UR, ASEC

SUBJ: BUILDINGS; CHANCERY FACADE

REF: A) STATE 073497, B) STATE 125469 JULY 13, 1972

INFO: FBO, EUR/EX, EUR/ SOV; ALSO PASS INFO TO  
CHIEF OF STAFF, AIRFORCE AF/ INSD, DIA ( AA-4, DS-6)

1. EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES MET APRIL 25 WITH UPDK  
ENGINEER GRABILIN AND CITY ENGINEER OLENBURG TO DISCUSS  
REPAIRS TO CHANCERY FACADE.

2. UPDK WAS INFORMED OF THE DEPARTMENT' S POSITION ( REF A)  
THAT NO SOVIET WORKMEN WILL BE PERMITTED TO WORK ABOVE  
SIXTH FLOOR OF CENTRAL WING, AND THAT EMBASSY INTENDED  
HAVE AMERICAN WORKMEN ERECT SCAFFOLDING AND PERFORM  
REPAIRS ABOVE THAT LEVEL.

3. GRABILIN REPLIED ALONG FOLLOWING LINES:

A) EMBASSY HAS RETURNED TO ITS PREVIOUS POSITION  
WHICH THE SOVIET SIDE REJECTED SOME TIME AGO.

B) IN JULY 1972, DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH DEPARTMENT  
( REF B) UPDK CHIEF VORONIN NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT TO PERMIT  
SOVIET WORKMEN ABOVE SIXTH FLOOR UNDER ONE- TO- ONE  
SURVEILLANCE.

C) GRABILIN REQUESTED THAT EMBASSY SUBMIT NEW CONDITIONS  
IN WRITING TO UPDK. ( TO BE DELIVERED BEFORE COB TODAY.)

D) ALTHOUGH SCAFFOLDING ALREADY DELIVERED TO EMBASSY  
AND ALL MATERIALS ON ORDER, UPDK WILL NOT RPT NOT PROCEED  
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WITH JOB UNTIL HIGHER AUTHORITIES HAVE RECONSIDERED PROJECT  
ALONG LINES OF NEW EMBASSY PROPOSAL.

E) SITUATION TO PEDESTRIANS AROUND EMBASSY ALREADY  
GRAVE AND OLENBURG SAID " PERHAPS WE SHOULD DECLARE A  
DANGEROUS ZONE AND PUT A FENCE AROUND IT."

F) STATED CATEGORICALLY THAT WORK WILL NOT BEGIN UNTIL  
ALL POINTS OF CONTENTION RESOLVED AND APPROVAL GIVEN BY  
BOTH PARTIES TO COMPLETE ENTIRE FACADE.

4. COMMENT: FACADE PROJECT NOW AT COMPLETE IMPASSE AND  
EMBASSY BELIEVES SOVIETS WILL NOT CHANGE A POSITION THEY  
KNOW HAD DEPARTMENT' S PREVIOUS AGREEMENT. FURTHER DELAY  
WILL SURELY RESULT IN CANCELLATION ENTIRE PROJECT. FACADE  
ALREADY CONSTITUTES PHYSICAL DANGER AND UNDUE DELAY COULD  
HEIGHTEN RISKS OF SERIOUS INJURY OR FATALITY TO ANYONE  
VENTURING IN IMMEDIATE VICINITY.

5. EMBASSY HAS THEREFORE DECIDED TO SEND GENERAL SERVICES  
OFFICER WALLS TO DEPARTMENT ON CONSULTATION TO DISCUSS  
PROBLEM WITH ALL RPT ALL CONCERNED. FBO REQUESTED SET UP  
MEETINGS WITH SOV, EUR/ EX, SY AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES  
BEGINNING MONDAY AM, APRIL 30, UNLESS DEPARTMENT AND AGENCIES  
CONCERNED AGREE THAT WE CAN IN FACT COVER SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS  
BY MAN- TO- MAN COVERAGE AND THEREFORE REVERT TO AGREEMENT  
REACHED  
BY VORONIN IN WASHINGTON ( REFTEL B).

6. DEPARTMENT' S NEGATIVE RESPONSE IN SUPPLYING ADEQUATE NUMBER  
SEABEES SUBJECT SEPTTEL.  
DUBS

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NMAFVVZCZ

\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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